

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-63. (Canceled)

64. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 94 wherein the organic waste is reduced before it is dried.

65. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 94 wherein forming the mixture comprises mixing the pieces with water.

66. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 94 further comprising forming the mixture into a shape.

67. (Canceled)

68. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 94 wherein the drying further comprises heating the mixture.

69. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 68 further comprising removing liquid water from the mixture.

70. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 69 wherein the liquid water is re-used in a subsequent process for producing a unitary biodegradable solid.

71. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 68 further comprising capturing water vapor emitted while drying the mixture.

72. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 71 further comprising converting the captured water vapor to liquid water.

73. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 72 wherein the liquid water is reused in a subsequent process for producing a unitary biodegradable solid.

74. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 94 wherein the water or biodegradable binder in the mixture is obtained from the raw organic waste.

75. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 74 wherein the biodegradable binder is a carbohydrate.

76. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 75 wherein the biodegradable binder is activated by heating.

77. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 65 wherein the biodegradable binder is a carbohydrate.

78. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 77 wherein the biodegradable binder is activated by the heating.

79-93. (Canceled)

94. (Previously Presented) A process for producing a biodegradable solid of organic waste comprising:

reducing raw organic waste to pieces before it is dried;
mixing the pieces with a biodegradable binder to form a mixture; and
forming a unitary biodegradable solid from the mixture by drying the mixture
wherein the reduced raw organic waste pieces are converted to a unitary biodegradable solid.

95. (Previously Presented) The process of claim 94 wherein the drying comprises drying the mixture to a moisture content at which it is free of odors caused by microbial activity.

96. (New) A process for producing a biodegradable solid of organic waste comprising:

reducing raw kitchen organic waste to pieces before it is dried;
mixing the pieces with a biodegradable binder to form a mixture; and
forming a unitary biodegradable solid from the mixture by drying the mixture
wherein the reduced raw organic waste pieces are converted to a unitary biodegradable solid.

97. (New) The process of claim 96, further comprising providing raw kitchen organic waste before it is dried.

98. (New) The process of claim 94, further comprising providing raw organic waste before it is dried.